

IPEDS Statutory Requirements, Data Collection Procedures, Universe, Levels of Analysis, and Missing Data

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Module Objectives

- Describe the statutory requirements for reporting Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) data
- Describe the IPEDS data collection process
- Describe the IPEDS universe
- Describe the technique used for missing data

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Statutory Requirements for Reporting IPEDS Data

- Higher Education Act of 1965 Title IV
 - IPEDS survey completion mandatory for institutions that receive or apply for Federal financial assistance
- Civil Rights Act of 1964 Title VI / Education Amendments of 1972 Title IX
 - Collection and reporting of racial/ethnic data mandatory for institutions that receive or apply for Federal financial assistance
- Carl D. Perkins Vocational Education Act
 - Collection of racial/ethnic data mandatory for vocational programs
- Civil Rights Act of 1964 Title VII, Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972 Amendment
 - Reporting of institutional staff racial/ethnic and gender data in odd years mandatory for institutions with 15+ full-time employees
- National Education Statistics Act of 1994
 - IPEDS completion is voluntary if not required on basis of requirements listed above

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IPEDS Data Collection Process: Preliminary Steps

1. Data entered by institutional respondents into IPEDS Data Collection System
2. Edit checks run on data submitted by respondents
3. Respondents resolve any issues identified during edit checks
4. Respondents “lock” the survey data after data errors corrected
5. Data migrated to Collection Level Center for quality control (QC) procedures
6. QC results reviewed and accepted
7. Data moved to ‘Preliminary Release Data’ section of IPEDS website for access by public
 - Imputed data for nonresponding institutions not included in Preliminary Data
 - Preliminary Release Data should not be used to provide aggregate estimates
8. *First Look* online publication released, based on Preliminary Data

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IPEDS Data Collection Process: Provisional and Final Steps

9. Additional QC procedures undertaken and data imputed for nonresponding institutions
10. Data moved to 'Provisional Release Data' section of IPEDS website for access by public
11. *First Look* publication reissued based on Provisional Data
12. Institutions may submit data revisions in the subsequent IPEDS data collection year
13. Revisions undergo QC procedures
14. Final data moved to 'Final Release Data' section of IPEDS website for access by public
15. *First Look* publication NOT reissued based on Final Data

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IPEDS Universe and Trend Data

- IPEDS universe
 - All institutions that fall under the statutory requirements for reporting IPEDS data
 - All institutions that respond in a given Collection Year (e.g., 2014-15)
 - Different institutions from year to year
- Using EZ Group option to analyze trends over time
 - Allows you to modify the universe for each year of interest to pull only institutions that reported in a given Collection Year when downloading multiple years of data

The screenshot shows the IPEDS Data Collection interface. At the top, it says "Data Collection: 2013" with a dropdown menu labeled "[change year]" highlighted by a red box and a red arrow. Below this, there is a "Select" section with four checkboxes: "First Look Universe" (unchecked), "Title IV participating" (unchecked), "U.S. only" (unchecked), and "All institutions" (checked). To the right of the checkboxes, it says "7764 institution(s)" followed by "Clear" and "Search" buttons.

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EZ Group Option for Trend Data

Data Collection: 2013 [change year]

Select

☐ 2013 ☐ 2012 ☐ 2011 ☐ 2010 ☐ 2009 ☐ 2008

☐ 2007 ☐ 2006 ☐ 2005 ☐ 2004 ☐ 2003 ☐ 2002

☐ 2001 ☐ 2000 ☐ 1999 ☐ 1998 ☐ 1997 ☐ 1996

☐ 1995 ☐ 1994 ☐ 1993 ☐ 1992 ☐ 1991 ☐ 1990

☐ 1989 ☐ 1988 ☐ 1987 ☐ 1986 ☐ 1985 ☐ 1984

☐ 1980

☐ First Look Universe ☐ Special mission ☐ Historically Black ☐ Special character ☐ State or other ☐ Geographical region

7764 institution(s) Clear Search

Data Collection: 2012 [change year]

Select

☐ First Look Universe ☐ Title IV participating ☐ U.S. only ☒ All institutions

7735 institution(s) Clear Search

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IPEDS Trend Generator Tool

- Generates tables and graphs to answer common questions about institutional trends
- Data can be filtered by institutional sector, degree-granting status, control, level, state, Carnegie classification, and geographic region

IPEDS Trend Generator

The IPEDS Trend Generator is a quick and easy way to see IPEDS data over time. Once you select a subject area and question you are interested in on this page, you will be able to create a trend, see a graph, download data, and print. You will also be able to select how to display the trend. Depending on the question you select, you could display your data by institution type, student type, and even state.

Select Subject & Question

To get started, click on a subject area from the list on the right and a list of questions relevant to that area will be displayed. When you click on a question, you will be directed to a page that will show a general answer using the most recent year of data available.

- ☐ Postsecondary Institutions
- ☐ Student Enrollment
- ☐ Degrees and Certificates Awarded
- ☐ Graduation and Retention Rates
- ☐ Financial Aid
- ☐ Institutional Revenues
- ☐ Institutional Expenses
- ☐ Employees and Instructional Staff

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Imputation

- IPEDS data are imputed when:
 - Institution is a nonrespondent – complete survey component is missing
 - Institution has an item nonresponse – item within a survey component is missing
- All items in each survey component are eligible for imputation, except:
 - Only cost of attendance and other institutional charges are eligible within Institutional Characteristics component
- Imputation:
 - Allows IPEDS data files to be used to create national totals
 - Statistical technique for estimating missing data
 - Nearest Neighbor procedure substitutes a similar responding institution's data for the nonrespondent's missing items based on key statistics of interest
- Additional information in [Methodology Reports](#) and [First Look Reports](#)

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Using Imputed IPEDS Data

When accessing IPEDS data from the IPEDS website:

- Download entire survey data file
 - Imputed values included in final data file
- Other options
 - Select option to include imputation and status flags in the Output section
 - Imputation flags indicate a particular variable was imputed
 - Status flags identify an institution's progress toward satisfying reporting requirements (e.g., no data, edited, locked, complete)

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Using Imputed IPEDS Data (Continued)

1. Select Institutions

2. Select Variables

3. Output

My Comparison Institution - Southeastern Oklahoma State University ⓘ

CHANGE REMOVE

Select Institutions - You have selected 1 institution(s)

VIEW/MODIFY

Select Variables - You have selected 1 variable(s), 1 can be used in this report. ⓘ

VIEW/MODIFY

Answer the questions below, then click 'Continue' to get your report.

Continue

Some queries you submit, especially those containing calculated variables, may take time to execute. Please be patient.

Which identification variables would you like to include?

☐ Institution name only
 ☒ Both Institution name and UnitID

Would you like long or short (maximum 8 characters) variable names?

☐ Short variable name
 ☒ Long variable name

In what format would you like to receive your data?

☐ View on screen
 ☒ Download in comma separated format

Would you like to include imputation and status flags? ⓘ

☒ No
 ☐ Yes

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Module Summary and Resources

Summary

- Described the statutory requirements for reporting IPEDS data
- Described the IPEDS data collection process
- Described the IPEDS universe
- Described the missing data and imputation flags used in IPEDS
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Resources

- [Statutory Requirements for Reporting IPEDS Data](#)
- [IPEDS Trend Generator](#)
- [Methodology Reports](#)
- [First Look Reports](#)